Appl. No. 09/632,425 Amdt. dated December 9, 2003 Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group 2829

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method for forming an insulation layer over a substrate, the method comprising:

forming a surface sensitive silicon oxide layer over the substrate; and forming a porous silicon oxide layer on the surface sensitive silicon oxide layer by thermal chemical vapor deposition, wherein said porous silicon oxide layer is deposited at a temperature of about 400°C or less, the porous silicon oxide layer having a density of less than or equal to about 1.7 g/cm³;

wherein the porous silicon oxide layer has a wet etch rate of greater than about 6000 Å/min.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the porous silicon oxide layer has a carbon content of at least 5 atomic percent.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the porous silicon oxide layer has a dielectric constant of between about 2.9 and 3.2.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the surface sensitive silicon oxide layer is deposited from a plasma enhanced CVD reaction of TEOS and oxygen.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the porous silicon oxide layer is deposited from a process gas comprising TEOS and ozone.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein a molar ratio of said TEOS to ozone is between about 10:1 and 20:1.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising forming a capping silicon oxide layer over the porous silicon oxide layer.
- 8. (Original) The process of claim 1 wherein said porous silicon oxide layer is deposited using an SACVD process at a pressure of between 100-700 Torr.

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- 9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said surface sensitive and porous silicon oxide layers are deposited in an in situ process.
- 10. (Original) A method for depositing an intermetal dielectric film over a plurality of conductive lines, the method comprising:

depositing a plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (CVD) silicon oxide layer over the plurality of conductive lines from a plasma of tetraethyloxysilane (TEOS) and oxygen; and

depositing a silicon oxide layer over the plasma enhanced CVD silicon oxide layer by a thermal CVD process from a gas mixture of a TEOS and ozone wherein said thermal silicon oxide layer has a dielectric constant of about 3.2 or less and a carbon content of at least about 5 atomic percent.

- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the density of said thermal silicon oxide layer is less than or equal to about 1.7 g/cm³.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising depositing a plasma enhanced CVD silicon oxide capping layer over the thermal silicon oxide layer.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the dielectric constant of said thermal silicon oxide layer is greater than or equal to about 2.9.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein a molar ratio of said TEOS and ozone used to deposit said thermal silicon oxide layer is at least 8:1.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said molar ratio is at least about 11.5:1.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein said molar ratio is between about 10:1 and 20:1.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said oxygen is provided from a flow of molecular oxygen.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein said plasma enhanced and thermal CVD silicon oxide layers are deposited in an in situ process.

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- 19. (Previously presented) The process of claim 10 wherein said thermal silicon oxide layer is deposited using an SACVD process at a pressure of between 100-700 Torr.
 - 20. (Canceled)
- 21. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the plasma enhanced CVD silicon oxide layer partially fills gaps between the plurality of conductive lines.
- 22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the thermal silicon oxide layer fills the gaps between the plurality of conductive lines.
- 23. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the substrate includes at least one gap, and wherein the surface sensitive silicon oxide layer partially fills the at least one gap.
- 24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the porous silicon oxide layer fills the at least one gap.
- 25. (Currently amended) A method for forming an insulation layer over a substrate having at least one gap, the method comprising:

forming a surface sensitive silicon oxide layer <u>as a lining layer</u> over the substrate <u>having partially filling</u> the at least one gap; and

forming a porous silicon oxide layer on the surface sensitive silicon oxide layer by thermal chemical vapor deposition, wherein said porous silicon oxide layer is deposited at a temperature of about 400°C or less, the porous silicon oxide layer having a density of less than or equal to about 1.7 g/cm³;

wherein the porous silicon oxide layer has a wet etch rate of greater than about 6000 Å/min.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the porous silicon oxide layer fills the at least one gap.